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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/700,447	11/05/2003	Hiroki Yamamoto	501.38617CX1	6400

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EXAMINER

YOUNG, WAYNE R

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2652

DATE MAILED: 09/08/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/700,447	Applicant(s) YAMAMOTO ET AL.	
	Examiner W. R. Young	Art Unit 2652	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 05 November 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. 09/585,294.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____. |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____. | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____. |

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1. Regarding the Continuing data on page 1 of the specification, the status of the parent application should be updated.

2. Claims 8-12 are objected to because the preambles of the dependent claims do not properly refer to the "device" as in the preamble of independent base claim 7.

3. The nonstatutory double patenting rejection is based on a judicially created doctrine grounded in public policy (a policy reflected in the statute) so as to prevent the unjustified or improper timewise extension of the "right to exclude" granted by a patent and to prevent possible harassment by multiple assignees. See *In re Goodman*, 11 F.3d 1046, 29 USPQ2d 2010 (Fed. Cir. 1993); *In re Longi*, 759 F.2d 887, 225 USPQ 645 (Fed. Cir. 1985); *In re Van Ornum*, 686 F.2d 937, 214 USPQ 761 (CCPA 1982); *In re Vogel*, 422 F.2d 438, 164 USPQ 619 (CCPA 1970); and, *In re Thorington*, 418 F.2d 528, 163 USPQ 644 (CCPA 1969).

A timely filed terminal disclaimer in compliance with 37 CFR 1.321(c) may be used to overcome an actual or provisional rejection based on a nonstatutory double patenting ground provided the conflicting application or patent is shown to be commonly owned with this application. See 37 CFR 1.130(b).

Effective January 1, 1994, a registered attorney or agent of record may sign a terminal disclaimer. A terminal disclaimer signed by the assignee must fully comply with 37 CFR 3.73(b).

4. Claims 1-12 are rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1, 3, 4, 6, and 8 of U.S. Patent No. 6,700,852 in view of Official Notice and Nakagawa et al.

The patent claims in the optical media storage art, recite all the subject matter claimed in the instant application, except for the instant application's claimed use of V oxide, Mn oxide, Fe oxide, or Cu oxide in the recording layer. The patent claims recite use of Cobalt oxide in the recording layer.

Official Notice is taken that it was well known to those skilled in the art that Titanium, Zirconium, Cobalt, and Iron are Transition Metals that have properties similar to one another, such as that they are excellent conductors of heat and electricity, have high melting points and

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are hard, combine chemically with oxygen to form compounds called oxides, and have more than one oxidation number.

Nakagawa et al. in the optical media storage art, discloses the equivalence of use of Titanium, Zirconium, Cobalt, and Iron in the recording layer of optical storage media, in order to provide improved recording characteristics. Note column 7, lines 39-40.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention by applicant to provide use of any oxide of Titanium, Zirconium, Cobalt, and Iron in the recording layer of the patent claims including Iron oxide as suggested by Official Notice and Nakagawa et al., the motivation being to provide improved recording characteristics.

5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

The references cited on the PTO-1449 form and JP 7-98484 were cited during prosecution of the parent application. Akahira and Yamada et al. disclose optical recording media.

6. Claims 1-12 are allowable over the prior art of record.

None of the references of record alone or in combination disclose or suggest an optical information recording medium or device including a laser beam responsive recording film having crystalline particles made of V oxide, Mn oxide, Fe oxide, or Cu oxide, and intergranular phase at boundary between particles, and further including **average particle diameter of 5-50 nm and standard deviation of particle diameters not more than 10% of the average particle diameter.**

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to W. R. Young whose telephone and VoiceMail number is (703)

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308-1554. If a plurality of attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Hoa Nguyen, can be reached on (703) 305-9687.

The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



WAYNE R. YOUNG
PRIMARY EXAMINER
ART UNIT 2652

wry/wry
9/4/04